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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

11 October 1950

DAILY KOREAN SUMMARY

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Date: 16/2/77 By: 023I. Military SituationSummary

The UN offensive penetrated deeper into North Korean territory against more tenacious enemy resistance. Heavy street fighting continued in Wonsan as ROK forces sought to secure the strategic industrial port city on the east coast of North Korea. The excellent Wonsan airfield, twenty minutes flying time from the enemy capital of Pyongyang, was opened for operations shortly after noon 11 October (Korean time). Meanwhile, significant gains were scored by other UN forces farther south along the central portion of the front. In the west, slight gains were made by UN forces advancing north of the 38th Parallel from the general area north of Seoul. UN naval units began clearing a channel into Wonsan. UN air forces supported ground operations and struck at enemy communications throughout North Korea.

Ground

Elements of the ROK Capital Division entered Wonsan to help the ROK 3rd Division mop up the northern outskirts of the city and UN air forces gave close support to the operation. The Wonsan airfield, now secured, was found in excellent condition. On the central front, the ROK 6th Division made important advances in a two-pronged drive in the Kumhwa area, where leading elements reached the town of Choso, 30 miles north of the 38th Parallel. Other ROK forces on the central front have now secured the key rail junction of Chorwon. In the western sector, US forces made some gains against moderate to heavy enemy resistance and repulsed two sharp enemy counterattacks. In the Taejon area, UN forces continued to engage remaining pockets of enemy troops. A captured North Korean officer said that he belonged to a group of about 800 attempting to escape to the north. In the enemy rear areas, above the 38th Parallel, convoys were observed in the vicinity of Pyongyang.

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Naval units in the Wonsan area provided fire support and blockaded the adjacent coast while mine-sweepers began opening a channel into the city through heavily mined waters. Other naval units continued blockade, reconnaissance, and offensive operations off the coast of northwest Korea, and new mine sightings were made off both the east and west coasts. Naval air units continued anti-mine, anti-submarine, and reconnaissance patrols.

Air

UN air forces flew 486 effective sorties, including 256 combat, in providing support to ground troops in all sectors. Six tanks were destroyed and four damaged in Chorwon, and two more were left burning in the streets of Wonsan. UN bombers concentrated in northwest Korea and scored at least 31 separate cuts in enemy rail lines. To interfere with enemy movements, 82 delayed-action bombs were dropped in the Pyongyang area.

II. General Situation

US Ambassador Muccio reports from Seoul that there is extensive evidence of Communist dismantling of industrial establishments in the Inchon-Seoul area. At virtually all factories visited by US Mission personnel, machinery had been dismantled and was apparently in the process of removal at the time of liberation. Most of the equipment was found near the factories waiting shipment and is now being reinstalled.

North Korean Premier Kim Il Sung has rejected the latest surrender ultimatum of the Commander, UN Forces, and has again called for the Korean people to struggle more fiercely than ever for final victory. Kim Il Sung also urged the North Korean people to take heart from the Soviet example of winning ultimate victory despite the early intervention in the USSR of many foreign powers.

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